

## INTERESTING ITEMS FROM THE CITIES

### He Bids Five Spades and Makes a Slam



CHICAGO.—A quiet bridge game in the residence of Jacob Loeb, former president and now a member of the school board, was interrupted. Gathered in a front room at 4800 Kinross avenue were Joseph Rosenfeld, Sydney Loeb, Fred Philipson and Herbert A. Loeb. The card chamber was contiguous to the porch, through an open door of which streamed a cooling breeze. Suddenly the voice of a boy was heard from the sidewalk.

"Bid five spades," he called.

The players glanced at each other. Mr. Loeb, sipping his lemonade, uttered a pleasant remark about the younger generation. Rosenfeld was they that they did not notice the entry of a youth with a 45 caliber revolver and a homemade velvet mask with ragged eyeholes. He

announced himself with the usual formula:

"Hands up!"

The players, thinking they were being kidded, laughed. The bandit insisted, adding a cursory word or two by way of emphasis. Finally the hands went up.

"No fair," objected Mr. Rosenfeld. "I've got a good hand for the first time this evening, and now you make me display it to the crowd."

The visitor requested him to lay his wealth on the table. The others followed suit. Herbert Loeb contributed \$100, Jake \$180, Sydney another century. Then a demand was made for jewelry.

"Now, look here, kid, you don't want that watch," said mine host, when he saw his brother's timepiece going into the kitty. "That's a present from his mother." The watch was returned.

By this time the proceedings were beginning to irritate Jacob Loeb.

"Well, now, young man," said he, "you've made a pretty good haul. Suppose you get to bed out of here."

"That's fair," observed the visitor. Whereupon he gathered up his plunder and got.

### Doesn't Want to Hear Gabriel's Horn

WATERLOO, IA.—William T. Whitney, wealthy retired farmer and one of the few survivors of pioneer days, has arranged every detail of his funeral when life, which he regards as a misfortune, shall have ended for him.

"I wish to be laid away so securely that I shall never hear Gabriel when he blows his horn," said Whitney, who personally supervised the digging of his own grave in Elmwood cemetery.

The grave is of regulation depth, composed with a layer of solid concrete sides and bottom to a thickness of eight inches. The men who did the work have been paid and disarmed, but the boss of the job is under written contract to construct a cover of cement six inches in thickness and this in turn to be covered with two layers of brick placed on edge and solidly cemented.

A plain white marker has been placed at the head of the empty grave. On top of the stone is cut the word "Father," and the date of death, 1935. The date of death will be cut by a workman who has already received his wage.

No minister shall be present when



the body is consigned to its last resting place. Whitney has already prepared his own funeral sermon.

"Life is an open road—death is a stone wall," he has written in this unique document. He holds out no hope for the life eternal, but qualifies this by adding he would not take one morsel of expectation from those who hope in an eternal life beyond death's black walls.

Musical, if any, at his funeral must be bright, gay and cheerful, and there must be no flowers.

The funeral manuscript is to be read by a close friend before the casket leaves his house. The text now reads in a little 5th line at the head of his bed, the key fastened securely around his neck with a bit of ribbon.

### Admits He Is World's Champion Hiker



FORT WORTH, TEX.—If R. P. Landbreth of this city isn't the champion hiker of the world, who is? Landbreth admits the championship. He says he is now nearly 20,000 miles over the record for long-distance walking, having traveled three times around the earth, covering 270,000 miles. He walked the distance except on ocean trips and then paced the decks of ships constantly to make up for it as much as possible.

He has walked 25,000 miles in South America, 10,000 miles in Mexico and Central America, 15,000 miles in Canada, Alaska and Newfoundland, and 75,000 miles in Europe and Asia.

Starting from Liverpool, England, on each of his trips, "the walkin' man in the world" landed in New York

for his first trip around the globe, which took two years and four months, landed at Charleston, S. C., for the second trip, taking two years and five months, and at Hoboken, N. J., for the third trip, which occupied three years. "I'm just walking for exercise now," he said.

Landbreth is "hard as a nail," appears to be about thirty-five years old instead of fifty, which is his real age. He carries a 60-pound pack containing everything necessary for his journey, which began at Liverpool, England, January 1, 1897, under a contract with various walking associations of which he is a member, to pay him \$100,000 if he broke the world's record.

He has done this, received \$120,000 and is to round out an even \$300,000 miles by July 11, 1924, when he returns to his home in Texas. With the exception of three months spent in a hospital after being wounded at the battle of San Juan Hill, while a member of Col. Roosevelt's Rough Riders, and two and one-half years as a shipbuilder at Hog Island during the world war, Landbreth has walked to and fro over the earth since 1897.

### "Rabbit-Eared, Weak-Kneed Sob Sisters"

CENTRAL CITY, COLO.—The women of Central City do not have rabbit ears; neither are they weak-kneed; moreover, they are not sob-sisters. Rising as their champion in this respect, William M. Kirk, a mining man of this region, with \$20,000 worth of resentment as an added incentive, has asked the district court of Gilpin county to adjudicate the ears and knees of the female population.

Kirk's singular defense of the women is embodied in the complaint in a suit which he has filed against T. R. Cudahay, another mining man of this section. In the first instance Kirk demands \$20,000 damages for alleged libel. He alleges that Cudahay, last October, when Kirk was a candidate for county commissioner, published in a local paper an article designed to ridicule him and hold him up to public contempt. Among other things, Cudahay accused Kirk, according to the latter's allegations, of being a "cave man love maker" and referred to him as "Wild Bill Kirk." Cudahay also claimed, according to Kirk's complaint, that he had been swindled of valuable mining property by Kirk.

In the course of Cudahay's charges



he advised the "rabbit-eared, weak-kneed sob-sisters" of Gilpin county not to vote for Kirk, the latter asserts. Kirk resents such reference to women of Gilpin county. In his complaint he denies this and all other charges that form the basis of his action.

In reply to Kirk's suit Cudahay pleaded the truth of the charges he made against Kirk. He asserts in his answer that Kirk's reputation is not worth the \$20,000 value that has been placed upon it.

Cudahay was also arrested with the editor of the weekly paper in which his statement concerning Kirk was published, for criminal libel. He has retained former District Judge Harr, S. Class as counsel.

## POISONED BRAN TAKES HOP OUT OF PESTIFEROUS GRASSHOPPERS



Side and Back View of Hopperdozer for Destruction of Hoppers—Hoppers Are Hitched to Projecting Ends of Two-by-Four.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

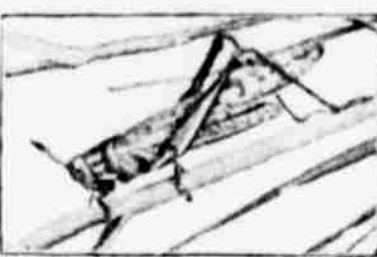
There is nothing so good as poisoned bran for taking the hop out of a grasshopper and there is no better way of buying and distributing the bran than through a community organization, specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture find. In the areas where the grasshoppers come down on the farm crops like all the plagues of Egypt there should be grasshopper-fighting organizations, just as there are fire-fighting organizations in every city. Fighting a grasshopper invasion without the help of the neighbors is like trying to put out a fire in a powder factory with one bucket of water.

In the Pacific states the vast, uncultivated areas of mountains, foothills, and grasslands afford ideal breeding grounds for at least eight common species of grasshopper. In disturbed, the pests can mass their forces in the spring and be ready for a descent upon the alfalfa fields and cultivated crops of the farmer when weather conditions permit. These seem to be little hope of destroying the grasshoppers in these isolated breeding areas and for that reason specialists of the bureau of entomology, United States Department of Agriculture, maintain that it will be many years before the grasshopper menace disappears from the West. But, while the eight plagues cannot be exterminated at their source, they can be met with a systematic, well-directed barrage of poisoned bait, fire, and other weapons for control when they attempt to invade the cultivated fields.

Preparing for the Attack.

Every locality should have an organization fully equipped and prepared to meet the grasshopper onslaught. All preparations should be made early in the spring before the insects have left their breeding grounds. The organization should be directed and controlled by efficient and energetic leaders, and it ought to have the cooperation and support of every farmer in the community as well as the landowners who hold title to the remote areas from which the plague spreads.

An equitable method of raising funds for the work can be arranged. If every landholder is taxed so the acreage he holds or operates. The funds should be collected and placed at the disposal of a good business man who will know how and where to go about buying poisons and other supplies when they are needed, without the necessity of untangling red



A Grasshopper at Work.

tape. Sometimes it is advantageous to fight the grasshopper army with fire, and it is often necessary to spread poisoned bait upon the property of nonresident landowners. Here are two points where local advice is desirable, and the leaders should know their exact rights and limits in these matters before the time comes for them to act to save the crops of the community.

If the district is divided into defense areas and each area put under the supervision of a man who knows grasshopper habits and how to use the weapons which the organization has put in his hands, there will be no waste of materials or effort when the foothills disgorge their hungry hordes. Lastly, the wider the cooperation the better the results will be. It does no good to drive the hoppers from one district, if they are allowed to settle and feed upon another—passing the pest along to the other fellow does not afford permanent relief, and it puts an extra hardship upon one's neighbor. The assault should be simultaneous throughout the whole infested area; farm should cooperate with farm, village with village, and county with county, so that every leap that the hopper makes to escape the frying pan will land him in the fire, the specialists say.

Eight Species in West.

There are at least eight species of grasshopper commonly found in the Pacific states. Some of these are winged, some are not; some prefer one variety of food, but altogether, when seasonal conditions are favorable, they can destroy any crop that western farmers grow. The habits and

## Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale

BY MARY GRAHAM BONNER

BLUNDER HEAD'S JOKE.

"I am very fond of joking," said the Blunder Head to the small fly. "Nothing amuses me more than playing my little jokes on people."

"Sometimes I get a little joke played on myself but still I have played my joke on the people or on some person first. That is enough for us."

"Tell me what kind of jokes you play on people," said the small fly.

"Well," said the Blunder Head, "in the first place you can see I am nothing more than a small insect or very small fly. I'm much smaller than you are, and goodness only knows but you are a small fly all right."

"I am just a little insect, but a little insect with the power to play jokes."

"Tell me about them," said the small fly.

"Well," said the Blunder Head, "people think I'm a spider's web most of the time."

"I bother them, especially in the early summer season of the year, and I'm rather for north now when they are having a late season, so I can bother them."

"Sometimes they think I'm a little spider, too. And when they go walking through the woods I go, too, and get in their way and run races in front of their faces."

"There is a rhyme I make up, and no one helped me either."

"I think I will make another, and it will be something like this:

"The Blunder Head, the Blunder Head, is something to dread, is something to dread."

"Well," said the small fly, "you don't startle yourself very much when you say that you are something to dread."

"Oh, I'm proud of that fact," said the Blunder Head. "And now I'll make up another rhyme."

"The people say I get in their way, and that is so. I bother them."

"Where there are pranks to be played, I do."

"Well," said the fly, "are you going to tell me what jokes you play on people?"



"Brush Me Away."

die and what pranks you play? I'm sure I would like to know."

"Of course you say that you run races in front of their faces, and when you said that, and got that far you began to make your rhymes and you didn't tell me about any more of your pranks. Do tell me some more."

"Well," said the Blunder Head, "as I told you, people think I'm a little bit of spider web getting in front of their faces as they walk through the woods, and they try to brush me away. If they do brush me away, I go back again, and I keep on playing with them like that."

"But if I don't go off like that to bother them again I get caught by their eyes."

"Not by my eyes, but by their eyes. In other words, I get in their eyes."

"Now, I've not been in any one's eyes as yet, but there is no telling when I shall be."

"And I will not mind, for I will have teased the person good and properly."

"I'd hardly use those words," said the fly.

"Well," said the Blunder Head, "as my name is Blunder Head, you can't expect me to be very correct about the words I use, but you know what I mean."

"Now, the onions have always made people weep. I've heard of them, but they are good to eat, and they don't really do any harm, even when they make creatures weep."

"But while we don't do any great harm, we are very annoying, very annoying, and we have always done our best to make people thoroughly bothered by us so they would know that, while we have the family name of Blunder Head, we never made any blunders about annoying them. We annoy them, all right, and always have, without any blunders at all."

"But," said the fly, "the people probably think you are Blunder Heads to get in their way!"

## RIDDLES.

What flowers have we on our faces? Tulips (two lips).

Why is a naughty baby like an unsafe bridge? Because both are un-be-able.

What is it that flies high and wears shoelace, yet has no feet? A football. Mention something which lives in winter, dies in summer, and grows with its root upwards? An icicle.

## ABLE TO DO HER WORK

After Long Suffering Mrs. Siefert Was Restored to Health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Pottsville, Pa.—"I suffered with female trouble for four or five years and was very irregular. I was not fit to do my work at times and took medicine from a doctor and got no benefit. I saw Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound advertised in the newspapers and took it and got all right. I gained twenty pounds or more and am now able to do my work. I recommend the Vegetable Compound to my friends and you may use these facts as a testimonial."



—Mrs. SALLIE SIEFERT, 313 W. Fourth Street, Pottsville, Pa.

The everyday life of many housewives is a continual struggle with weakness and pain. There is nothing more wearing than the countless rounds of household duties and they become doubly hard when some female trouble makes every bone and muscle ache, and nerves all on edge.

If you are one of these women do not suffer for four or five years as Mrs. Siefert did, but profit by her experience and be restored to health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

## DIAMOND WORN BY CARLOTTA

"Maximilian Stone." With Unhappy History, Is Now on Exhibition at New York.

A great greenish-white diamond, known as the "Maximilian stone," is on exhibition for the first time in this country at New York. Like all large gems, this stone has a history which is not happy. It was found in Brazil about 1850 and in its rough state weighed nearly 50 carats. Fortunate Joseph Maximilian, then archduke of Austria, traveled extensively in South America. While he was in Brazil he bought the diamond. It is said, for a price approximating \$375,000.

The jewel today is in the same condition as it was when worn by the Empress Marie Charlotte in Maximilian's short reign in Mexico.

When Maximilian was executed a commission was designated to sell the diamond along with other gems that had been part of the gorgeous court. The stone was bought by an American. As part of his estate the diamond is again to be sold.

Some people prefer ship to round the coast, realizing that they haven't got the price right.

Do you know why it's toasted? To seal in the delicious Burley flavor. It's toasted.



LUCKY STRIKE CIGARETTE

## MAN'S BEST AGE

A man is as old as his organs; he can be as vigorous and healthy at 70 as at 35 if he aids his organs in performing their functions. Keep your vital organs healthy with



The world's standard remedy for kidney, liver, bladder and uric acid troubles since 1896; corrects disorders; stimulates vital organs. All druggists, three sizes. Look for the name Gold Medal on every box and accept no imitation.

Comfort Your Skin With Cuticura Soap and Fragrant Talcum



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